DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: June 27, 2018

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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT RELEASES UPDATED DATA IN NEW, ONLINE MAP SHOWING WHICH CITIES/COUNTIES MUST ALLOW STREAMLINED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

Easy point-and-click reveals detailed data showing how jurisdictions are performing in meeting their housing need and reporting requirements

SACRAMENTO – The California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has released an updated list showing which California cities and counties are subject to streamlined approvals for certain housing projects under Senate Bill 35.

SB 35 is an integral piece of California's historic 15-bill housing package that was signed into law by Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. in September 2017. The law, which took effect January 1, is intended to help address housing affordability by expediting approvals for some types of new housing projects in jurisdictions that are not meeting their housing needs.

The updated list reflects the latest data submitted to HCD by jurisdictions in their housing element annual progress reports, which show the number of housing permits issued relative to each jurisdiction's housing need. Each April, all 539 jurisdictions in California must submit their annual progress reports, covering the prior calendar year's activities.

"Although it's still early, because SB 35 just became law six months ago, we are definitely seeing an increase in the number of annual progress reports submitted to HCD compared to this point in previous years," said Ben Metcalf, Director of HCD. "I'm hopeful that we will not only continue to see higher compliance in report submissions, but, more importantly, that the reports will begin to show that cities and counties are catching up and keeping pace with their housing goals."

Accompanying the updated list is a new, online interactive map that allows users to quickly view detailed data for each jurisdiction, including whether or not the city or county:

- Has an HCD-approved housing element (a jurisdiction's plan for housing).
- Is subject to streamlined housing approvals.
- Has been submitting its annual progress reports.

The map also shows the number of housing permits issued to build homes affordable to people in each income category and how those permits stack up against the city/county's housing need.

On July 12, 2018, HCD will host a webinar showing how to use the more-advanced features of the interactive map. To receive email notifications about the webinar, SB 35, or other elements of the housing package, <u>sign up to receive HCD email</u> and select "California's 2017 Housing Package." More information, including frequently asked questions and milestones for each bill's implementation can be found on HCD's 2017 Housing Package webpage.

SB 35 Background: Each region's housing need is determined every five to eight years through the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process. Once the need is determined, cities and counties must show they have zoned enough land for housing to accommodate families and individuals at all income levels. These plans, known as housing elements, must be submitted to HCD for approval and incorporated into the city's or county's general plan. SB 35 looks beyond planning to see if cities/counties are on track to permit sufficient housing to meet their need. When they have not, they are subject to SB 35 streamlined approval requirements.

In order for a proposed development to qualify for expedited approval in a city or county that is subject to SB 35 streamlining, it must, among other things:

- Be located on an infill site.
- Follow residential and mixed-use zoning laws.
- Dedicate at least 10 percent of housing units for lower-income residents if the city/county has
 not made sufficient progress toward their above-moderate income housing need, or at least 50
 percent of housing units for lower-income residents if the city/county has not made sufficient
 progress toward their very-low and low-income housing need.

The California Department of Housing and Community Development is dedicated to the preservation and expansion of safe and affordable housing, so more Californians have a place to call home. Our team works to ensure an adequate supply of housing for Californians and promotes the growth of strong communities through its leadership, policy and program development. For more information, please visit www.hcd.ca.gov and follow us on Twitter, @California_HCD and Facebook, @CaliforniaHCD.